

Last year the case in Jasper, Texas where they took an African American man, they chained him to the back of a pickup truck, and they dragged him until he was decapitated. That's America 1999, not 1969. At the cusp of a new millennium with all this economic power, they're still killing people for the color of their skin.

We had a case, a Portuguese woman moved into Missouri. First week, they planted a seven-foot cross on her lawn and burned it. Why? Because she was Portuguese—they thought she was African American—and that was their way of saying "we don't want you here." A cemetery in New Jersey. On Rosh Hashana they knocked down all the tombstones in a Jewish cemetery.

Discrimination is very much alive and well, and for Italians it's alive and well. Mario Cuomo was thinking about running for national office. At one time we did a few polls: Six percent name recognition of Mario Cuomo. Only 6 percent had heard of his name nationally. Nine percent thought he had connections to the Mafia.

Discrimination is alive and well, and my grandfather would talk about the voice of liberty, the voice of liberty, that this country was the voice of liberty. What we did in Kosovo, thank God, was express and communicate the voice of liberty. What we are doing in China—which we should do more of—what we are doing in South Africa—is to keep that voice of liberty strong.

Those are the avenues, the agendas, that I think that we have to approach to resolve the dual realities that we are seeing in this nation. Understand the realities, expose them—don't run from them—and then approach them.

And I also believe this: That now is the time to do these things. We have a great economic success—let's use it to invest. If we are not going to do these things now, then when are we going to do them?

They say the time to fix the hole in the roof is when the sun is shining. Well, now is when the sun is shining. If we don't take these dividends and invest now in Anacostia, when are we going to do it? If we don't now take up the fight for affordable housing now, when are we going to do it? If we don't take up the fight now for healthcare, when are we going to do it? If not now, when?

I'll tell you when—never. Because all of the excuses are gone. If this Congress, if this administration doesn't push progressive government it will never happen—because you won't get a better moment than this moment.

All the things yelled about for all those years—all the obstacles are stripped away. How many years did we hear about the deficit: "well we can't do it, we have deficit". The deficit—the great inheritance of the Reagan administration. Well, the deficit is gone. God bless President Clinton, you have a balanced budget, you are talking about a surplus.

"Well, the government can't do anything." Well, the government's reinvented. Confidence in government is at its highest point in 40 years. If we don't do it now when will we do it? If we don't do it now, we will never do it.

And that, my friends, is a sin, because we have so much more to do, because the promise that this nation made to my grandfather and your grandfather is not yet fulfilled. They believed—they believed so much so that they came from all over the globe to this country. They got in little boats, they went across great oceans to lands they didn't even know—they didn't know how to speak

the language—but the promise was so powerful.

Opportunity for all, justice, brotherhood, discrimination against none. We'll help you make it, you will lift us all. And we will work with you to make it as a community.

We are not there yet, but we can be. Now is not the time to be complacent. Now is not the time to pat each other on the back and say "boy oh boy you see how that Dow Jones is doing."

Now is the time to lock arms and go forward even stronger and harder than before and use this moment. We can do better. We are cheating ourselves if we say, this is all we can do. We are cheating ourselves if we are saying this is the best we can be, we've done it, this is America at its best.

This is not America at its best. This is not America at its best. We can do more.

Langston Hughes wrote a beautiful poem. I just want to read you a couple of paragraphs from it:

Let America be America Again.

Let America be the dream the dreamers dreamed—

Let it be that great strong land of love
Where opportunity is real, and life is free,
Equality is in the air we breathe.

I am the poor white, fooled and pushed apart,
I am the Negro bearing slavery's scars.
I am the red man driven from the land.
I am the immigrant clutching the hope I seek—

I am the worker sold to the machine.

I am the people, worried, hungry, mean—

Hungry yet today, despite the dream.

I am the man who never got ahead.

A dream—

Still beckoning to me!

O, let America be America—

The land that never has been yet—

And yet must be.

That is our charge—together we can do it.

SUPPORTING H.R. 2018, THE CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2018, the Child Custody Protection Act. This important legislation reaffirms the vital role of parents in our families, and seeks to promote and encourage communication between teens and their parents or guardians.

Today in many states, it is legal for a child under the age of 18 to make the monumental decision to end a life by getting an abortion without consulting with their parents. It is unfortunate that some minors who find themselves confronted with an overwhelming situation such as an unplanned pregnancy would not consult the very people they should turn to for guidance and support in a time of personal crisis . . . their parents.

My home state of Pennsylvania already has legal statutes which require knowledge of at least one of the minor's parents before obtaining an abortion. The Child Custody Protection Act will re-establish the rights of parents nationwide, by requiring that a parent must accompany a minor child if they choose to un-

dergo abortion procedure. The Child Custody Act would not interfere or take the place of existing state laws like those in Pennsylvania, but it would make it a Federal offense to transport a minor across a state line for an abortion, unless the child was transported by a parent. It is my hope that enactment of this bill will not only foster a greater level of communication between family members on this most serious subject, but will prove to be instrumental in reducing the number of abortions and encourage the consideration of viable options such as adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly encourage every Representative of this body to join with me in support of the Child Custody Act, as 130 of my cosponsors have, and vote for passage of this important child protection and parent's rights legislation.

CONGRATULATING THE WATERS FAMILY ON 50 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Maurice Waters, recently a Professor of Political Science at Wayne State University in Detroit, and his wife, Dr. Elinor Waters, former Director of Oakland University's Continuum Center in Rochester, MI, are a most extraordinary couple. This past Saturday, they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary and given their activities and vigor, it is conceivable that they are just now hitting their stride. They may epitomize the adage of a rolling stone gathering no moss.

I have known Maury Waters and his family for a number of years. He presently has Professor Emeritus status at Wayne State and has moved from the Detroit area to Chevy Chase. During his nearly 40 years at Wayne State, he not only taught political science as an assistant and then as a tenured Professor—specializing in International Relations—but he managed to author five books, eleven major articles and book chapters and dozens of conference papers. While in Detroit, he was a board member and chairman of the Center for Peace and Conflict, which is affiliated with Wayne. He also taught at the University of Wisconsin, at Antioch College in Ohio and at the University of the West Indies, in Kingston, Jamaica. Dr. Waters was also a Foreign Policy Associate under the Rockefeller Foundation as a Research Scholar at the United Nations.

Beyond teaching at Oakland University and directing its Continuum Center, Elly Waters has also authored numerous books and professional articles and is a nationally acclaimed expert in the field of counseling older people and adult career development. She worked at the Merrill-Palmer Institute in Detroit, at the Fels Institute in Yellow Springs, OH, and the Industrial Relations Center of the University of Chicago and the Michigan Civil Rights Commission. Dr. Waters has also served on numerous national boards including the American Counseling Association and the National